ABSTRACT

There is provided a process for efficiently producing an anti form of an optically active β -hydroxy- α -aminocarboxylic acid derivative that is useful as an intermediate for pharmaceuticals and agrochemicals. The process for producing optically active β -hydroxy- α -aminocarboxylic acid derivative of formula (2) or (3)

$$CO_2R^2$$
 (2) R^1 CO_2R^2 (3) CO_2R^2 (3)

wherein R^1 is substituted or unsubstituted C_{1-20} alkyl group, or substituted or unsubstituted C_{4-12} aromatic group, R^2 is substituted or unsubstituted C_{1-20} alkyl group, or substituted or unsubstituted C_{4-12} aromatic group, characterized by comprising subjecting an α -aminoacyl acetic acid ester compound of formula (1)

$$CO_2R^2$$
 NH_2
(1)

wherein R¹ and R² have the same meaning as the above, to hydrogenation by catalytic asymmetric hydrogenation in the presence of an acid.